

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAЕ-00 OMB-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 OIC-02

/127 W

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O P 291330Z OCT 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 690

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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PASS STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT MTN

SUBJ: MTN AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE

REFS: -A) USEC BRUSSELS 9628 NOTAL; (B) GENEVA 7926 OCT 18

1. REF A REPORTS EC 113 COMMITTEE WILL MEET MONDAY NOV 3

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(NOT RPT NOT NOV 4) TO OBTAIN ADVICE ON SETTLEMENT OF MTN

AGRICULTURE IMPASSE. TEXT TO BE DISCUSSED IS THAT WORKED OUT IN BRUSSELS OCT 17 BETWEEN AMB DENT AND OTHER SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS WITH SOAMES AND OTHER TOP EC OFFICIALS AS REPORTED REFTEL B. MTN DEL REPEATING REF B TODAY TO ALL CAPITALS IN EC-9.

2. MTN DEL RECOMMENDS WASHINGTON AUTHORIZE APPROACHES IN ALL EC -9 CAPITALS ASAP AND IN ANY EVENT NO LATER THAN MID-DAY FRIDAY OCT 31 IN EFFORT TO INFLUENCE INSTRUCTIONS TO EC REPS AT 113 MEETING. WE RECOMMEND APPROACHES BY U.S. AMBASSADORS, IF POSSIBLE, IN ORDER STRESS POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF RESOLVING IMPASSE BY HAVING ALL MEMBER STATES ACCEPT TEXT ALREADY NEGOTIATED BY AND TO MUTUAL SATISFACTION OF TOP LEVELS OF U.S. AND EC COMMISSION.

3. WHILE ALL GOVTs OF EC-9 PRESUMABLY HAVE TEXT REPORTED IN REF B, WE CANNOT BE SURE THIS IS THE CASE OR THAT THIS PRECISE TEXT IS IN HANDS OF SENIOR OFFICIAL IN EACH CAPITAL WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTRUCTING COUNTRY REP TO 113 MEETING. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND TEXT IN REF B BE PRESENTED BY U.S. EMBASSIES WHEN MAKING APPROACHES. WE RECOGNIZE EMBASSIES MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY IN EXPLAINING MEANING OF AND RATIONALE FOR EXACT WORDING IN THIS TEXT AND THIS IS ADDITIONAL REASON FOR POLITICAL LEVEL APPROACH. WE RECOMMEND EMBASSIES:

(A) IDENTIFY U.S. AND EC OFFICIALS LISTED PARA 1 REF B WHO PARTICIPATED IN NEGOTIATION OF THIS TEXT;

(B) STRESS PARA 7 REF B, I.E. MUTUAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY U.S. AND EC COMMISSION THAT THIS TEXT DOES NOT RPT NOT SOLVE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S. AND EC ON AGRICULTURE BUT PAPERS OVER THESE DIFFERENCES TO ENABLE GROUP AGRICULTURE TO GET ON WITH A WORK PROGRAM.

(C) COMMENT THAT SUCCESSIVE U.S.-EC COMMISSION EFFORTS OVER PAST TWO MONTHS TO FIND WORDING TOLERABLE TO BOTH SIDES SHOWS EXTREME DIFFICULTY OF IMPROVING ON THIS TEXT; THERE ARE PHRASES U.S. WOULD MUCH PREFER IN DIFFERENT FORM BUT EC COMMISSION HAS REFUSED ON GROUNDS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEMBER STATES WOULD NOT ACCEPT AND, SIMILARLY, THERE ARE PHRASES EC COMMISSION WOULD MUCH PREFER IN DIFFERENT FORM BUT SUCH CHANGES ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S.

(D) THIS PROCEDURAL DISPUTE HAS ALREADY DRAGGED ON TOO LONG. NEITHER SIDE IS SURRENDERING ITS FUNDAMENTAL POSITION ON AGRICULTURE IN THE MTN BY ACQUIESCING IN THIS TEXT. U.S. EMBASSIES SHOULD, WE BELIEVE, ACCORDINGLY BE

INSTRUCTED TO TAKE STRONG NEGATIVE POSITION TOWARD NEW WORDING EVEN IF ADVANCED PURELY FOR EDITORIAL "CLARIFICATION."

4. U.S. EMBASSIES SHOULD ALSO RAISE ADDITIONAL DISPUTE THAT HAS ARISEN SINCE REF B TEXT WAS DEVELOPED, NAMELY THE QUESTION OF TIMING AND PROCEDURE IN COMMUNICATING REPORTS ON BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS CONTEMPLATED BY PARAS 4 AND 9 OF TEXT IN REF B. THIS ISSUE NOT ADEQUATELY BUTTONED UP IN REF B TEXT. U.S. POSITION IS THAT RESULTS OF BILATERAL CONSULTATION SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED SIMULTANEOUSLY TO SUBGROUP, GROUP AGRICULTURE AND OTHER Affected MTN GROUPS (SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING THE QR SUBGROUP) UPON COMPLETION OF THE CONSULTATION. THIS PRESERVES U.S. POSITION THAT MATTERS AFFECTING QRS IN AGRICULTURE MAY APPROPRIATELY COME BEFORE THE QR SUBGROUP. HOWEVER IT DOES NOT PRECLUDE EC FROM OBJECTING TO THESE ISSUES COMING BEFORE QR SUBGROUP. THUS, DISPUTE LEFT TO ANOTHER DAY FOR ULTIMATE RESOLUTION. EC OFFICIALS FULLY AWARE OF U.S. POSITION ON THIS MATTER.

5. MTN DEL HAS BEEN ADVISED BY A FRIENDLY EC SOURCE IN GENEVA THAT THE PROBLEM MEMBER STATES WITH RESPECT TO REFTEL B TEXT ARE FRANCE, BELGIUM AND IRELAND. OUR SOURCE HAS IMPRESSION FRENCH OPPOSITION IS WEAKENING SOMEWHAT IN PUBLIC BUT THAT FRENCH MAY INSIST IN 113 MEETING ON SUBSIDIARY UNDERSTANDINGS DESIGNED TO FRUSTRATE WORK PROGRAM. BELGIUM REPORTEDLY UNHAPPY ABOUT AMBIGUITY OF WORD "COLLABORATE" IN PARA 1 OF TEXT (DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM) BUT IT IS THIS VERY AMBIGUITY THAT MAKES THIS WORD ACCEPTABLE TO SOME OTHER MEMBER STATES. BASIS FOR IRISH DISSATISFACTION UNKNOWN BUT MTN DEL ASSUMES IT REFLECTS GENERAL IRISH DESIRE TO OBSTRUCT ANY NEGOTIATIONS ON AGRICULTURE IN MTN.

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6. MTN DEL RECOMMENDS U.S. APPROACHES NOT BE CONFINED TO THREE PROBLEM COUNTRIES BECAUSE AFFIRMATIVE PRESSURE BY OTHER MEMBER STATES IN FAVOR OF REFTEL B TEXT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE NEEDED. WALKER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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